

# THE GREATER NEW-YORK

## A BILL TO SUBMIT CONSOLIDATION TO THE PEOPLE.

THE MEASURE LIKELY TO MEET WITH GREAT OPPOSITION—COMMISSIONER PECK RETIRES TO PRIVATE LIFE—NEW GAME AND FISH LAWS PROPOSED IN THE ASSEMBLY.

ALBANY, Jan. 25.—The Greater New-York bill came into the Senate to-day from Mr. Aspinall, (Rep., Kings.) The New-York Senators eyed it askance, and predicted that it would meet with rough sledding before it reached the Governor. They said that Brooklyn must solve the problem in its own way, and that it was questionable whether public sentiment in the districts affected had crystallized sufficiently to justify enacting such legislation at this time. The bill was referred to the Committee on Cities, and a public hearing will be given to it some afternoon next week.

Senator Aspinall explained that the bill was sent to him by the Municipal Consolidation Commission of New-York, through its President, Andrew H. Green. The petitions for consolidation contained about 20,000 signatures, and clubs favoring the scheme had been formed in many of the towns and districts included in the plan. Under its provisions the refusal of any one of the towns affected to vote in favor of consolidation will not affect the general purpose of the bill. It is entitled "An act providing for the submission of consolidation of the City of New-York with certain territory under a single municipal administration to a vote of the people, directing the commission appointed by and under authority of Chapter 311 of the Laws of 1890 to report bills to the Legislature for the incorporation, government, and administration of the consolidated city, and authorizing an appropriation therefor."

The territory referred to in the law includes the City of New-York, the County of Kings, the County of Richmond, the town of Westchester, and that portion of the towns of East Chester and Pelham which lies south of a straight line drawn from the point where the northerly line of the City of New-York meets the centre line of the Bronx River to the middle of the channel between Hunter's and Glen Islands in Long Island Sound, Long Island City, the town of Newtown, the town of Flushing, the town of Jamaica, and that part of the town of Hempstead which is westerly of a straight line drawn from the southeasterly point of the town of Flushing, through the middle of the channel between Rockaway Beach and Shelter Island to the waters of the Atlantic Ocean.

The electors in the district affected shall vote upon the question of annexation at the next general election with ballots specially provided. After the election the commission appointed in 1890 shall prepare and report to the Legislature such bills as are necessary to bring the affairs of said territory under a single municipal administration. The Board of Estimate is authorized to turn over to the commission \$25,000 to be raised by taxation on real and personal property and by the use of unexpended balance prior to the year 1893.

### COMMISSIONER PECK RETIRES.

When Senator Cantor (Dem., N. Y.) reported from the Finance Committee the confirmation of Thomas J. Dowling of Albany as Commissioner of Statistics of Labor, vice Charles F. Peck, the Senate adopted the report at once and unanimously. Mr. Dowling took possession of the office this afternoon, and Mr. Peck retired to the snow-clad hills of Steuben County, where obscurity will claim him for her own.

### SOME BILLS INTRODUCED.

The South Side Sportsmen's Club of Long Island, which was founded about fifteen years ago by the late John Keteltas Hackett, and which purchased the famous old Snedecor place, has applied for legislative aid, by a bill introduced by Senator Floyd Jones, (Dem., Queens,) and by Mr. Higbie (Rep., Suffolk,) in the House, to increase its real estate holdings to \$500,000 and to extend the boundary lines for hunting and fishing.

Two other game bills were introduced. One by Mr. Hennessy, (Dem., Kings,) which was prepared by the Game Commissioners, amending the game law by shortening the open season for hunting deer from Sept. 1 to Nov. 1, hound-fishing from Sept. 10 to Oct. 15, and for trout fishing from May 1 to Sept. 1. Foxes are added to the list of animals for which a bounty is offered.

The other was offered by Mr. Stanton (Rep., Chenango.) It makes the closed season for grouse from Jan. 1 to Oct. 1.

The Senate refused to concur in the House amendments of Senator McCarty's (Dem., Kings,) much-discussed Columbian celebration expense bill, and the bill was sent to the Judiciary Committee, which will report it to-morrow.

### THE LOBBY SEES AN OPENING.

John A. Hennessy (Dem., Kings,) has run foul of the lobby in his efforts to pass his bill to permit clubs to hold \$500,000 worth of real estate. He was informed yesterday that his bill would be throttled unless a certain member of the Assembly was "seen"—an ambiguous term, susceptible of divers constructions. Mr. Hennessy failed to avail himself of the opportunity, and this morning, when his bill appeared on its final passage, it was kicked bodily back to the Judiciary Committee. The lobby smacked its chops when the announcement was made yesterday that such wealthy institutions as the Colonial, the Union League of New-York and of Kings and the University Club favored the bill.

### NEW ASSEMBLY BILLS.

Among the bills introduced in the Assembly to-day were these:

*By Mr. Butts, (Dem., New-York.)*—An annual appropriation of \$200,000 from 1894 to 1898 for improving the parks in the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards of New-York—\$1,000,000 in all; also, that a non-resident alien may inherit or receive by devise from a citizen of the United States real estate in this State.

*By Mr. Cahill, (Dem., Kings.)*—Fixing the price of gas in cities of 100,000 and more.

*By Mr. Clahan, (Dem., Erie.)*—The annual canal Maintenance Appropriation bill, \$809,250.

*By Mr. Koche, (Dem., New-York.)* providing that coroners shall investigate all fires where the damage is over \$100 in cities where there are no Fire Marshals and report to the Superintendent of Insurance, who shall supply them with necessary blanks. (The bill is drawn on the recommendation made by Ex-Gov. Hill in his last annual message.)

*By Mr. Guenther, (Dem., Erie.)* the Statutory Revision bill covering public lands.

The Senate Committee on Railroads will make a favorable report on Gov. Flower's nomination of Michael Rickard as Railroad Commissioner to succeed himself.

### A BANQUET FOR THE SENATE.

Col. W. L. Brown, representing the Fifth New-York District, will entertain the entire Senate at dinner at the Manhattan Club, New-York, on the evening of Saturday, Feb. 4. Only three guests outside of the circle of thirty-two Senators will be invited—Gov. Flower, Lieut. Gov. Sheehan and Mayor Gilroy. The dinner is intended to round up Col. Brown's four years' service as Senator, and is expected to surpass the famous "pacificatory" banquet which he gave at the Manhattan Club two years ago in honor of Mr. Cleveland and Senator Hill.

### GOV. FLOWER'S COUNTY ROADS BILL.

Gov. Flower's State roads bill has been perfected, and will be introduced in the House to-morrow by Mr. Barnard, (Dem., Clinton.) It provides that the Supervisors of any county may by a majority vote adopt the county road system, and shall designate roads outside of any town or city limits as county roads, and the expense of maintaining these roads shall be a county charge. The amount necessary shall be appropriated by the board, the amount in each town being proportionate to the equalized valuation of the real property of the town. The board is authorized to borrow money from time to time for the construction, maintenance, and repair of the roads in each county, and may issue bonds or other evidences of indebtedness at a rate not to exceed 5 per cent. per annum. The county roads shall be exclusively under the jurisdiction of the board and the County Engineer, who shall be appointed by the board for a term of three years, and exempt from the jurisdiction of the highway officers of the town. The system of taxation for working and repairing the highways other than the county roads in a town in a county in which the county-road system is adopted shall be the money system of taxation.

The Democratic Senators have learned that two of their number, Messrs. Bloodgood of Greene and Walker of Steuben, are opposed to the Personal Registration bill. A caucus has been called at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning for the purpose of whipping these men into line. It is doubtful whether either will attend, as the farmers in their respective districts have expressed themselves strongly against the bill, and without their aid it will never pass the Senate.

Senator Parker of this city gave a dinner at his residence on Washington Avenue to-night in honor of Speaker Sulzer. Among the guests were Lieut. Gov. Sheehan, Senator W. L. Brown, the four members from Albany County, leaders Quigley and Malby, and Col. Webster.